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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/666,424	09/19/2003	Kamil Paruch	OC01626K	8310

24265 7590 06/28/2006

SCHERING-PLOUGH CORPORATION
PATENT DEPARTMENT (K-6-1, 1990)
2000 GALLOPING HILL ROAD
KENILWORTH, NJ 07033-0530

EXAMINER

WARD, PAUL V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1624

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/666,424

Applicant(s)

PARUCH ET AL.

Examiner

PAUL V. WARD

Art Unit

1624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 16-24 and 26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 25 and 27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12'03, 3'04, 4'04.</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of Group II in the reply filed on April 13, 2006 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground that groups I-IV are inter-related (i.e., part of one and the same invention). Additionally, Applicant contends that there is a linking claim encompassing the scope of all the processes, uses, composition and compounds, and thus, believe that it is inappropriate to restrict since there is a commonality. This is not found persuasive because Groups I-IV are separate and patentably distinct because there is no patentable co-action among them. For example when R³ is a heteroaryl/heterocyclyl moiety or when R³ is a non-heteroaryl/non-heterocyclyl moiety, a reference anticipating one will not render the other obvious. Hence, Applicant's inventions are distinct and have acquired a separate status in the art due to their recognized divergent subject matter and different classification. Additionally, because each group has different subclasses, it would constitute a burden on the Examiner to search all subclasses. Further, different fields of search would be required in the non-patent literature. Thus, a search of the four groups would impose an undue burden upon the Examiner. Therefore, the restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Groups I, III and IV are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

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Applicant reserved the right to file a divisional application to the non-elected subject matter.

Applicant is entitled to have Groups IV rejoined under M.P.E.P. § 821.04, since the claims of Group II are allowable. An amendment, which results in the method claims being commensurate in scope with the allowed claims, will be welcomed.

An action on the merits on claims 1-15, 25 and 27 is contained herein.

Conclusion

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of non-elected subject matter in the claims.

The prior art does not teach any of the imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazine compounds substituted in the manner claimed by the Applicant. Thus, the compounds in Group II were neither found to be obvious nor anticipated by the prior art of record. The prior art does not teach or suggest the presently claimed compound.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

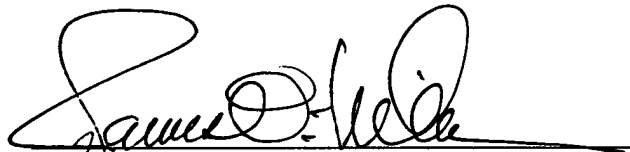
A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PAUL V WARD whose telephone number is 571-272-2909. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O Wilson can be reached on 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



James O. Wilson
Supervisory Patent Examiner,
Technology Center 1600